

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BAMAKO 04193 110928Z

14

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 SAM-01 IO-10 /087 W

----- 086889

R 110900Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2651

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAMAKO 4193

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ML, SA

SUBJ: VISIT OF FOREIGN MINISTER TO SAUDI ARABIA

1. SAUDI CHARGE SALEH HAS TOLD US THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAS INVITED MALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER CHARLES SAMBA CISSOKHO TO MAKE PILGRIMAGE TO MECCA AS GUEST OF SAG IN LATE NOVEMBER. FOUR TO FIVE OTHERS WILL ACCOMPANY CISSOKHO.

2. AS DEPT. WELL AWARE, CISSOKHO IS ONE OF REGIME'S LEADING EXPONENTS OF RADICAL LINE IN INTERNATIONAL ISSUES AND IS A FERVENT SUPPORTER OF PRO-SOVIET AND PRO-CHINESE POSITIONS.

3. WE HERE ARE IN NO POSITION TO GAUGE EXTENT OF SAUDI INFLUENCE ON MALIANS, OR EVEN SAUDI VIEW OF RADICAL MOSLEM STATES SUCH AS MALI. GIVEN MALI'S NEAR DESPERATE NEED FOR INCREASED FOREIGN AID, HOWEVER, IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT CISSOKHO WILL BE ON HIS BEST BEHAVIOR AND WILL BE SOUNDING OUT THE SAUDIS ON AID. (MAJOR SAUDI AID PROJECT HERE IS CONSTRUCTION OF ENORMOUS MOSQUE IN BAMAKO.)

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4. WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN KNOWING IF SAG
IS AWARE OF MALI'S LEFTIST ORIENTATION, AND
WHETHER OR NOT SAUDIS TAKE THAT INTO ACCOUNT
IN DETERMINING AID LEVELS. ANYTHING THE SAUDIS
COULD DO TO TEMPER CISSOKHO'S ANTI-WESTERN AND
PRO-COMMUNISTS STATEMENT WOULD, OF COURSE, BE
MOST HELPFUL.
MCGUIRE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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To: STATE
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